

and the Reconstructionist Rabbinical Association commemorating the 350th anniversary of Jewish life in America and proclaiming the period from September 2004 to September 2005 "to be one of special thanksgiving, prayer, study, reflection and celebration."

The resolution follows.

CELEBRATE 350—JEWISH LIFE IN AMERICA,  
1654–2004

Let it be known that in Elul 5764 (September 2004) the Jewish community of the United States began a year long commemoration marking the 350th Anniversary of Jewish settlement in this country.

With the help of God and under the protection of the Constitution of the United States, we have lived and prospered in this land. We have been an integral part of American life. We have worked with all other Americans in the never-ending effort to keep secure the democratic way of life. Our ancient prophetic ideals and the teachings of our sages serve as cornerstones of this nation's values. Our work, our hopes, and above all, our living religion have been among our proudest offerings to the American community.

In some lands across the seas the Jewish people have felt the searing flame of prejudice, persecution and death. The American Jew has had the sad yet inspiring opportunity to bring comfort to the oppressed, the joyous opportunity to participate in the reconstitution of the Jewish state on the ancient soil of Israel, and the inescapable and ennobling responsibility to mend the broken places in our world.

Even as we have worked for the well-being of our people abroad, the Jewish people in America have struggled to preserve our noble heritage, our historic traditions, our ancient teachings, our ethics, and our spiritual ideals in the free climate of our nation.

Mindful of our manifold blessings and with deep gratitude in our hearts to the God of Israel, Who, in 1954, led our forebears to the shores of this great new land,

We have proclaimed the period from Elul 5764 (September 2004) through Elul 5765 (September 2005) to be one of special thanksgiving, prayer, study, reflection and celebration to mark the 350th Anniversary of Jewish Communal Life in America.

We call on all American Jewry to participate in the observance of this anniversary; to thank God for the bountiful blessings that have been bestowed on us in this remarkable land. Let us express our collective hope that peace, security, and prosperity will reign in our nation for all. May the principles of freedom and liberty that have been the lodestar values of this great Republic continue to radiate their blessings on our nation.

RABBI HARRY DANZIGER,  
*President, Central  
Conference of American  
Rabbis.*

RABBI PERRY RAPHAEL  
RANK,  
*President, Rabbinical  
Assembly.*

RABBI DALE POLAKOFF,  
*President, Rabbinical  
Council of America.*

RABBI BRANT ROSEN,  
*President, Reconstructionist  
Rabbinical  
Association.*

EMERGENCY SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT TO MEET IMMEDIATE NEEDS ARISING FROM THE CONSEQUENCES OF HURRICANE KATRINA, 2005

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOE BACA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, September 2, 2005*

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, for more than a week we have all watched television coverage of Hurricane Katrina, transfixed by the devastating impact of the storm on the Gulf Coast, especially in and around New Orleans. Although the full extent of the damage is not yet known, it is clear that thousands of Americans have died, and many more have been injured, shaken and displaced. The wind, rain and flooding has destroyed homes, businesses, farms and crops, causing immeasurable suffering.

The destruction has significantly scarred the people and the economy of the region and even beyond. Rebuilding the area's infrastructure will probably take years. Rebuilding the lives of our fellow Americans will also take time and require assistance.

Many people in Louisiana, Mississippi, and Alabama lack basics such as food, water, clothing, sleeping materials, medicine and first aid. We must help provide for their critical immediate needs so they can survive.

I am heartened that my constituents in the Inland Empire of California have heeded the call to help. I am not surprised by our response; however, because I already know that our communities are generous. We have shown great compassion responding to those in need, as we did following September 11th and other tragedies affecting people thousands of miles away. And we must do so again when so many Americans are suffering.

My immediate concern has been the effort to rescue and assist the victims of Hurricane Katrina, making sure that we do all we can to help those in need.

Congress is taking a first step by approving more than \$10 billion of funding for emergency assistance to help. We all recognize that the costs of rescue, recovery and rebuilding will be substantially higher, and I am confident that Congress, and the American people, will support additional funding.

However, we in Congress must also focus on determining what needs to be done to minimize devastation from future natural disasters or other emergencies. So we must ask difficult questions about the Federal Government's preparation and planning prior to the storm and the response following it.

One of the fundamental responsibilities of government is to protect our citizens. So we must investigate fully whether the Administration did all it could have, and should have, to protect Americans.

Katrina was a powerful and deadly natural disaster, but we must ask whether hundreds, maybe even thousands of Americans, died because of the failure of officials to prepare and respond effectively.

IN HONOR OF RECORDING ARTS  
DAY

**HON. MARY BONO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2005*

Mrs. BONO. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay special recognition to the first ever Recording Arts Day on Capitol Hill.

The Recording Arts and Sciences Congressional Caucus, working with The Recording Academy®, has sought to include the voice of artists and other professionals in policymaking decisions. Over the course of the year, Members of Congress have reached out to members of the recording arts community in hopes of working together on many critical issues facing this industry. Today, musicians, songwriters, singers, producers and other key members of The Recording Academy® will visit Members of Congress on the Hill to share their experiences and raise awareness on matters of importance to them.

Those participating in Recording Arts Day will focus on a variety of issues, including protecting intellectual property rights, bolstering music education and emphasizing the importance of music preservation. It is through the private and public sectors working together on these causes that we can nurture future artists and support music, one of this country's greatest and largest exports.

Under the leadership of Recording Academy® President Neil Portnow, The Recording Academy® has greatly increased its presence on Capitol Hill. Mr. Portnow realizes how critical it is for artists to engage in policymaking and sees it as the responsibility of artists and others to educate and influence actions affecting them.

I would also like to commend the Recording Academy's Daryl Friedman, Vice President of Advocacy and Government Affairs, for helping to organize Recording Arts Day. Thanks to his efforts, this promises to be a very successful and informative day.

Mr. Speaker, I would once again like to recognize Recording Arts Day and hope this inaugural event becomes an annual tradition.

IN MEMORY OF SPECIALIST  
ERNEST DALLAS, JR.

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 7, 2005*

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of Army Specialist Ernest Dallas, Jr., from the 26th Congressional District of Texas, for serving our country during Iraqi Freedom. SPC Dallas died July 24, 2005 with three other soldiers when a roadside bomb exploded next to their Bradley Fighting Vehicle. SPC Dallas was assigned as a scout in the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment in Baghdad. He was 21 years old.

I would like to recognize and celebrate Army Specialist Ernest Dallas, Jr.'s life today. SPC Dallas, a Fred Moore High School graduate, enlisted for a three-year hitch in November 2003, because he wanted to serve his country and felt he needed the training to meet his future goals. A loving family member, Specialist